

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
January 19, 2006**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chris Kozaites, President, at 9:04 a.m., at the Bixby Park Community Center. Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

**Present:** Chris Kozaites, President  
Bea Antenore  
Simon George  
Drew Satariano  
Brett Waterfield

**Absent:** Harry Saltzgaver, excused

**Staff:** Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
Thomas Shippey, Manager, Maintenance Operations Bureau  
Dennis Eschen, Manager, Planning and Development Bureau  
Diane Lewis, Manager, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau  
Chrissy Marshall, Manager, Community Recreation Programs  
Janet Day-Anselmo, Manager, Business Operations Bureau  
Dave Ashman, Manager, Special Events and Filming  
William Greco, Acting Chief Ranger  
Alvin Bernstein, Superintendent of Cultural and Community Services  
Torie Russell, Cultural and Community Services  
Sadie Cowden, Sports Field Reservations  
Robin Black, Executive Assistant to the Director

**Guests:** George Medak, AOG  
Kristen Autry, Save LBC Skyline

**It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Antenore to excuse the absence of Vice President Saltzgaver. The motion carried unanimously.**

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 15, 2005**

**It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Antenore to approve the December 15, 2005 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

**III. SAMMY AWARD PRESENTATION – THOMAS SHIPPEY**

Mr. Tom Shippey gave a PowerPoint presentation recapping the adventures of Sammy. Sammy's latest adventure was that he married Sally the Flamingo. Mr. Shippey then presented the Sammy Award to David Ashman, Manager of Special Events and Filming.

**IV. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH PRESENTATION FOR JANUARY**

President Kozaites stated that Commissioner Satariano would announce the Employee of the Month for January.

Commissioner Satariano announced Ardige Pittman as Administrative Employee of the Month for January.

Mr. Alvin Bernstein, as her supervisor, spoke about Ms. Pittman.

**V. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS**

**#06-0101**

PERSONAL SERVICES/INSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS-MONTHLY APPROVAL

It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Antenore to authorize the Community Recreation Services Bureau Manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed. The motion carried unanimously.

**#06-0102**

AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF PERMITS WITH YOUTH SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE NONEXCLUSIVE USE OF SPORTS FIELDS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, EXPIRING FEBRUARY 28, 2011

Mr. Hester stated that this is a request recommending approval for all the youth sports organizations for a five-year period, to save staff time and work. He said that if there are any exceptions, staff would bring those back to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review and approval.

Commissioner Antenore asked if the free light usage by the youth sports organizations have continued to be monitored.

Mr. Hester responded that staff has continued to monitor their light usage and they still receive regular reports. He stated that Edison may be looking at a rate adjustment in the future and quarterly meetings between City staff and Edison are currently taking place to discuss issues.

Commissioner Satariano asked if all the teams understand that the waiver of the light fees is not a right of having a league. Ms. Sadie Cowden responded that they understand.

Mr. Hester stated that it would be a good way to document the usage by sending a letter to the league presidents letting them know the value of the waiver of light fees on the fields.

Commissioner Satariano asked what would happen if the teams went with another organization and changed their team name.

Mr. Hester responded that the Department would then possibly need to take that back to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review and approval. He said that it depends on what agreements the organizations would come to.

**It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner George to authorize the execution of youth sports permits with the organizations listed on Attachment "A" for a term of five years, expiring February 28, 2011, and waive its usual fees for rental, lights, administration and gross receipts on the sale of food and beverages in consideration for the City being recognized as a co-sponsor of the league by the Permittee. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **VI. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS**

### **A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE President Kozaites, Chair**

President Kozaites stated that the Committee met and discussed the agenda.

Mr. Hester stated that they did discuss the Salvation Army's proposed Kroc Center that they are interested in building, possibly in Chittick Field. He stated that staff is holding off bringing this item to the Parks and Recreation Commission because an item would be brought before the City Council on January 24, to address a potential MOU with this facility. This may be brought before the Parks and Recreation Commission at the February meeting, depending on what happens at the City Council meeting. He stated that this property does not currently belong to the City; it is County property.

### **B. FINANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE Commissioner Satariano, Chair**

Commissioner Satariano stated that the Department is a quarter into the fiscal year and expenditures and revenue are in line with the first quarter. He encouraged the Commissioners to review the financial statement, which was included in the packet.

C. PARK SAFETY COMMITTEE  
Commissioner Waterfield, Chair

Commissioner Waterfield stated that the Committee met this morning and they discussed current staffing levels, which are still below budgeted levels. He said that the new park ranger station should be open in March or early April. He stated that the incident reports are included in the packet.

Commissioner Antenore mentioned that there is nothing in the report on graffiti at the Houghton Skate Park. Mr. Hester responded that there is a new mural in the basin, which may have deterred graffiti.

Acting Chief Ranger William Greco responded that there has been no graffiti at the Houghton Skate Park for the last month, due to the mural. He said that the park has been very quiet this past month.

Commissioner Waterfield stated that park ranger foot patrols have increased even though staffing levels are down.

D. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION COMMITTEE  
Commissioner Satariano, Chair

Commissioner Satariano stated that the Committee meets quarterly and they would meet next month.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMMITTEE  
Commissioner George, Chair

Commissioner George stated that the Committee did not meet this month.

F. CITY SCHOOLS/JOINT COMMITTEE  
Commissioner Antenore, Chair

Commissioner Antenore stated that the Committee did not meet this month.

G. SPECIAL EVENTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE  
Vice President Saltzgaver, Chair

Commissioner Satariano stated that the Committee would be discussing the Field Use Policy in their upcoming meeting.

**VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION**

**A. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2005**

Commissioner Antenore asked if the lights that were vandalized at the Veterans Memorial were replaced. Mr. Shippey responded that the lights were replaced.

Mr. Hester stated that the fence that was installed around the memorial stopped the vandalism.

Commissioner Satariano said it was very creative of the Department to design Rotary Centennial Park.

Commissioner George said he was glad to see that both of the tennis centers were doing well.

**VIII. CORRESPONDENCE**

President Kozaites stated that there was no correspondence received.

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

President Kozaites stated that there was no unfinished business.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION**

Ms. Diane Lewis introduced Alvin Bernstein and his crew and said that they would discuss their role.

Mr. Alvin Bernstein introduced his staff and said that they have been going through quite a bit of changes. They were formerly known as the Gang Intervention and Prevention Division. He introduced Able Beltran, Danita Strauss, Torie Russell, and Armando Gonzalez. Mr. Bernstein distributed a brochure and went over the information describing the division's goals, which are networking, public awareness, and providing education to youth as an alternative to gangs.

Mr. Hester stated that the program has changed dramatically from the Gang Intervention and Prevention Program that it once was. He stated that these staff members are key players and role models to try and educate youth away from gangs.

B. REVIEW OF PLANS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF VICTORY PARK AT 100 EAST OCEAN BOULEVARD

Mr. Dennis Eschen stated that this is the section in front of what used to be the Jergins Trust Building, at 100 East Ocean Blvd. He said that this is a unique block between Pine Avenue and the Promenade. The Victory Park Design Guidelines contain language that this area should be treated specially from the rest of the park, but it doesn't specify how. The Local Coastal Plan states that it should be designed to emphasis pedestrian movement. Staff reviewed it to be in strict compliance with the Victory Park Design Guidelines and the pedestrian function. Gruen Associates are proposing to widen the stairway, take out the planters, and make the area flat and more park-like.

Mr. George Medak stated that the revised plan is more like a park than the previous plan.

**It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Waterfield to approve the design of Victory Park adjacent to 100 E. Ocean Boulevard, as modified by the inclusion of the stairway into Victory Park, as long as the design is further modified so the shape of the planters become informal and park like, the amenities of park sign, park benches, drinking fountain, and trash receptacles are included, and the Victory Park lawn and row of palms are extended to the Promenade South. The motion carried unanimously.**

C. REVISED PRIORITY OF USE POLICY OF PERMITTING OF ATHLETIC FIELDS

Ms. Diane Lewis stated that a strikeout version and the new policy is attached. She said that this policy is to ensure that Long Beach residents have priority to sports fields.

Commissioner Satariano stated that this is more of a "receive and file" policy.

**It was moved by Commissioner Antenore and seconded by Commissioner Satariano to receive and file the Revised Priority of Use of Permitting of Athletic Fields. The motion carried unanimously.**

D. UPDATE OF BIXBY PARK BAND SHELL – TOM SHIPPEY

Mr. Tom Shippey stated that staff and an engineer are working on a design and the potential for FEMA reimbursement for the Bixby Park band shell. He said that the Department would then start a campaign with Partners of Parks for donations. The Department is hoping to begin construction within the next few months.

President Kozaites asked if staff knew how old the structure was. Mr. Eschen responded that there are photos of Herbert Hoover standing on it while he was campaigning for the presidency in 1928, so it goes back to at least to the mid-twenties.

President Kozaites asked how close the design would replicate what it used to look like. Mr. Shippey responded that the band shell would look very close to the original plan. The band shell used to have stairs in the front, covered over at some point, which will not be rebuilt. The later room addition and the restroom addition would also not be replaced. From the outside the band shell would look very close to what it was before. The engineer is using the original plan. The community would also like to see the band shell declared a historical building.

XI. **COMMENTS**

A. AUDIENCE

President Kozaites asked for comments from the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

B. STAFF

Ms. Chrissy Marshall introduced Rudy Rivera, the acting supervisor of Bixby Park. She said that he held a Halloween carnival for the first time at the park.

Mr. Hester suggested that the Commissioners take a look at the new mural at Bixby Park, while they were here.

Ms. Lewis distributed flyers for events at the Rancho Los Cerritos. She mentioned that the opening of the Colorado Lagoon Wetland and Marine Science Education Center would be on January 28, and that the Commissioners should have already received their invitations in the mail.

Mr. Eschen stated that an additional plan for the Sports Park would be brought before the Parks and Recreation Commission next month. He also mentioned that the Capital Improvements Committee meeting would be held in February.

C. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Satariano stated that he spent quite a bit of time in Bixby Park when he was young.

**XII. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 16, 2006, at El Dorado Park West, 2800 Studebaker Rd., Long Beach.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

President Kozaites adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Black  
Executive Secretary  
to the Director

c: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine